



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Wastewater News

Environmental Services

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DNR Hires New Storm Water Program Coordinator

MEDIA CONTACT: David Schelling, DNR, 515-217-0875, or david.schelling@dnr.iowa.gov

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has a new storm water program coordinator.

David Schelling will start as the new storm water coordinator for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) section on Nov. 11.

Based in Polk City, Schelling has spent the past 17 years working for the state of Iowa - half with the department as an industrial NPDES permit writer and half with the State Hygienic Laboratory in the Limnology department. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in animal ecology from Iowa State University.

With the hire, the department is looking to put an increased emphasis on outreach to communities and stakeholders. As storm water coordinator, Schelling hopes to increase engagement with Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) communities and improve individual permits to make them easier to understand and implement. Staff will also be working to improve the user experience of the online storm water permitting application.

“I want the role to evolve to a partner to the people utilizing the permits,” he said.

EPA Releases BABA Implementation Guidance to States

On Nov. 7, 2022, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released long-awaited guidance to State Revolving Fund (SRF) Programs on how to implement the Buy America, Build America (BABA) Act for recipients of SRF and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Funding. BABA was a provision within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which was signed into law on Nov. 15, 2021 and is now referred to as BIL. BABA mandates that all federal funding for public infrastructure projects use domestically sourced iron, steel, manufactured goods and construction materials.

BABA was effective on May 14, 2022. Since then, EPA has released an Adjustment Period Waiver (9-2-2022), a Small Project General Applicability Waiver (9-28-2022), and a De Minimis General Applicability Waiver (10-24-2022). The release of the BABA Implementation Guidance

this week is the first written guidance the state SRF programs have been offered in developing processes and procedures for achieving compliance with this new federal funding provision.

The EPA will be offering a webinar to states and regional EPA offices next week. EPA training for SRF borrowers is anticipated to begin before the end of the calendar year. Additional guidance and training will be offered to SRF borrowers, consultants, and contractors in calendar year 2023.

The [Implementation Guidance](#), EPA Waivers, and more information on BABA can be found on the [BIL Funding Opportunities page of the Iowa SRF website](#) or on [EPA's BABA website](#).

Questions regarding BABA compliance can be directed to Amy Seyffer, SRF Compliance Specialist, at 515-321-7844 or amy.seyffer@dnr.iowa.gov.

First Round FFY 2022 BIL Loan Forgiveness Awards Announced

The first State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan forgiveness awards have been determined for the federal fiscal year (FFY) 2022 Clean Water and Drinking Water SRF base programs and for the FFY 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) General Supplemental Funds for both Clean Water and Drinking Water. This first round of awards selected projects from the current approved Intended Use Plan (IUP) Project Priority List, which includes projects approved by the Environmental Protection Commission up to the second quarter of State fiscal year 2023.

The eligible projects selected in this first round consist of projects that have closed an SRF loan this fiscal year, meet the Iowa SRF disadvantaged community affordability criteria (socioeconomic assessment score), AND are constructing a priority project.

The award list and more information on the SRF and BIL loan forgiveness criteria can be found in Appendix C and Annex A to the CWSRF and DWSRF IUPs. Please see the links below.

- [FFY 2022 CAP Grant and FFY 2022 BIL General Supplemental Loan Forgiveness Award List - CWSRF and DWSRF *pdf](#)
- [BIL General Supplemental Fund IUP](#)
- [Clean Water SRF IUP](#)
- [Drinking Water SRF IUP](#)

A virtual public hearing to discuss these IUPs is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Public comments are welcome.

Please use the following conference video or call-in information to participate:

- Google Meet Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/asi-jqye-eik>
- Or Dial: (US) +1 502-383-3907 PIN: 874 715 213#

Written comments will be accepted through Dec. 10, 2022. Questions and written comments regarding these IUPs should be directed to Water-infrastructure@dnr.iowa.gov.

SFY 2023 Intended Use Plan Q3 Updates Ready for Public Review

The Third Quarter (Q3) update to the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2023 Intended Use Plans (IUP) for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) are now available for public review and comment. The IUPs cover the CWSRF and DWSRF base programs for SFY 2023 (July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023), and the Annexes cover the Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2022 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) General Supplemental Funds.

These IUPs can be found on www.iowaSRF.com at the following locations:

- [Clean Water SRF Base Program IUP Information](#)
- [Drinking Water SRF Base Program IUP Information](#)
- [Clean Water and Drinking Water BIL Funding Opportunities](#)

A virtual public hearing to discuss these IUPs is scheduled for Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Public comments are welcome.

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Written comments will be accepted through Dec. 10, 2022. Questions and written comments regarding these IUPs should be directed to Water-infrastructure@dnr.iowa.gov.

It is anticipated that the Iowa Environmental Protection Commission will act on the IUPs at their Dec. 13, 2022 meeting.

Operator Certification: Continuing Education Opportunities

Online and virtual training opportunities are being created and offered through community colleges, state industry associations, national industry associations, EPA, and other state industry partners. All operators should continue to monitor their emails and the Training Calendar on the [Iowa DNR Operator Certification Database](#). Look at the calendar often, as there are new opportunities posted throughout the week.

Please contact Laurie Sharp at (515) 725-0284 with any questions concerning operator certification training.